

## **Department of Natural Resources**

Division of Mining, Land & Water Mining Resources Section

> 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 930 Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3577 Main: 907.269.8642 TDD: 907.269.8411 Fax: 907.269.8949

September 11, 2014

Jennifer Pyecha Senior Environmental Engineer Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc. PO Box 73726 Fairbanks, AK 99707-3726

Subject: 2014 Dewatering Access Road Installation- Amendment Approval F20149852POO.2

Dear Ms. Pyecha,

The Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW) received on September 10, 2014 correspondence from Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc. (FGMI), requesting approval to amend the *Fort Knox Mine Plan of Operations Amendment Approval F20149852POO* (POO) for the clearing of 5 acres for the construction of the 4,100 foot realigned dewatering access road necessary to accommodate the Phase 8 Mining Plan.

The DMLW has reviewed the proposed amendment and consulted with Alaska Departments of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) and Fish & Game (ADF&G).

The requested amendment to the POO as proposed and illustrated in your September 10, 2014 submittal is hereby approved as *Fort Knox Mine Plan of Operations Amendment Approval F20149852POO.2*. Nothing in this decision changes the conditions of the original POO Approval dated March 28, 2014. The associated disturbance of the realigned dewatering access road should be accounted for in the next update to the Reclamation and Closure Plan, and the closure cost estimate.

Please be advised that this authorization does not eliminate the potential need for authorization of your activity from other Federal, State or local divisions or agencies.

A person affected by this decision may appeal it, in accordance with 11 AAC 02. Any appeal must be received within 20 calendar days after the date of "issuance" of this decision, as defined in 11 AAC .2.040(c) and (d) and may be mailed or delivered to Joe Balash, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resourced, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501; faxed to 1-907-269-8918, or sent by electronic mail to dnr.appeals@alaska.gov. If no appeal is filed by the appeal deadline, this decision becomes a final administrative order and decision of the department on the 31st calendar day after issuance. An eligible person must first appeal this

decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to Superior Court. A copy of 11 AAC 02 may be obtained from any regional information office of the Department of Natural Resources.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Brent Martellaro at 907-451-2788.

- RUSSELL KIRKHAM synig fol:

Sincerely,

Scott Pexton

Mining Section Chief

cc: Mark Huffington, FGMI

Brent Martellaro, ADNR Carolyn Curley, ADNR David Schade, ADNR

Tim Pilon, ADEC Bill Morris, ADF&G

Ellen Lyons, ACOE

Stephanie Lovell, ADNR Jack DiMarchi, ADNR

Charlie Cobb, ADNR Pete McGee, ADEC

Jack Winters, ADF&G